

## Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society

Dawn Taylor, President

Wayne B. Anderson, Secretary

William G. Barron, Vice Pres.

N. Gay Blalock, Treasurer

Allen Terrell, Council-at-large

Wayne B. Anderson — Newsletter Editor

March 2017

Vol. 13, No. 3

Without a past, there is no future

### Next meeting:

The next meeting will be a regular business meeting at 10:00 am on March 11, 2017, in the conference room of the Liberty Library.

### Future Meeting Schedule

**March 11, 2017** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**March 18, 2017** — Field trip to New Orleans to visit Chalmette Battlefield and other sites.

**April 8, 2017** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**May 6, 2017** — Heritage Day. Society activities to be announced. No regular meeting.

**June 10, 2017** — Annual meeting with election of officers in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**July 2017** — No meeting.

**August 12, 2017** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**September 9, 2017** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**October 14, 2017** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**November 11, 2017** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**December 2, 2017** — Open House at the Liberty Courthouse. County officials will be present to give tours and explanations on what records the courthouse has available. Other activities are being planned.

### AMITE COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the February 11, 2017 meeting

**DRAFT**

At 10:12 am, prior to the call to order, VP Greg Barron announced that the dowsing rods that had been made in response to the announcement published on the society's Facebook group page were available for \$10.00 for those who had indicated they wished to buy them. Ten sets were made. If all sets are sold before all those interested can get a set, more will be made. Greg will have the remaining sets available after the meeting before departing for the field trip.

VP Barron also gave an update on the plans for the field trip and recognized Tom Lewis who will act as guide.

VP Barron then explained about finding a collection of Amite County slave-related documents that are up for sale on Ebay. He had discussed purchasing the documents with the officers of the society and it was decided to pursue donations through the society Facebook page to raise the money. Greg managed to convince the seller to sell all the documents as a group for \$790, about half the amount that was being asked in total for individual document sale. When the request for

*(Continued on page 2)*

You may contact this editor at:

**Wayne B. Anderson, Sr.**

**1737 Bridgers Drive**

**Raymond, MS 39154**

Or by e-mail at [sitemanager@achgs.org](mailto:sitemanager@achgs.org)

*(Continued from page 1)*

donations was made, \$800 in commitments was received so Greg will conclude the purchase next week.

President Dawn Taylor then called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. There were 26 attendees present.

The minutes of the January 14, 2017, meetings were taken up for approval. A motion to approve minutes was made by Greg Barron and seconded by Sam King. The motion carried.

President Report: Pres. Taylor reminded the group about the planned New Orleans trip on March 18, 2017, and referred to the information included in the January newsletter. As of the meeting date, twenty seats on the bus remain available. She then went over the plans for the trip.

Vice President Report: Since VP Barron had covered his business before the formal call to order, he had no additional report.

Secretary Report: None.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Gay Blalock provided a Treasurer's report. The balance of the Society's account is \$12, 068.70.

COMMITTEES: No additional reports.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Other Business: None

Announcements:

A reenactment/encampment open to the public is scheduled for February 25, 2017, at the John Ford home in Marion County.

There will be cemetery tour with historical impersonations at the Port Gibson cemetery on March 31, 2017. The cost per person is \$25.00.

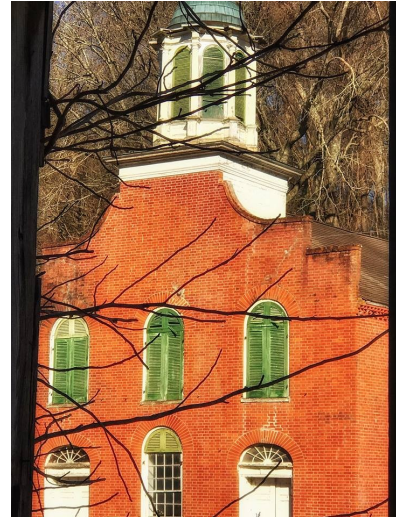
The annual Rodney clean-up work day is scheduled for March 11. Since this is the next society meeting date, local participants will leave for Rodney after the meeting.

Sam King announced the representatives of the Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History will be coming to evaluate structural problems with the Little Red School House on March 24, 2017

The meeting was adjourned to begin preparations for the field trip.

#### RODNEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CLEAN-UP

DAY has been set for March 11th, 2017. It will start around 9am and lunch will be provided. So, come out and help clean inside and outside the old church. Please bring your own cleaning instruments as we can't provide for everyone. Also, the event is weather permitting. If it is a bad weather day obviously we will postpone to another date.



You will be asked to sign a waiver to allow you to work around the church. (Attorney's advice.)

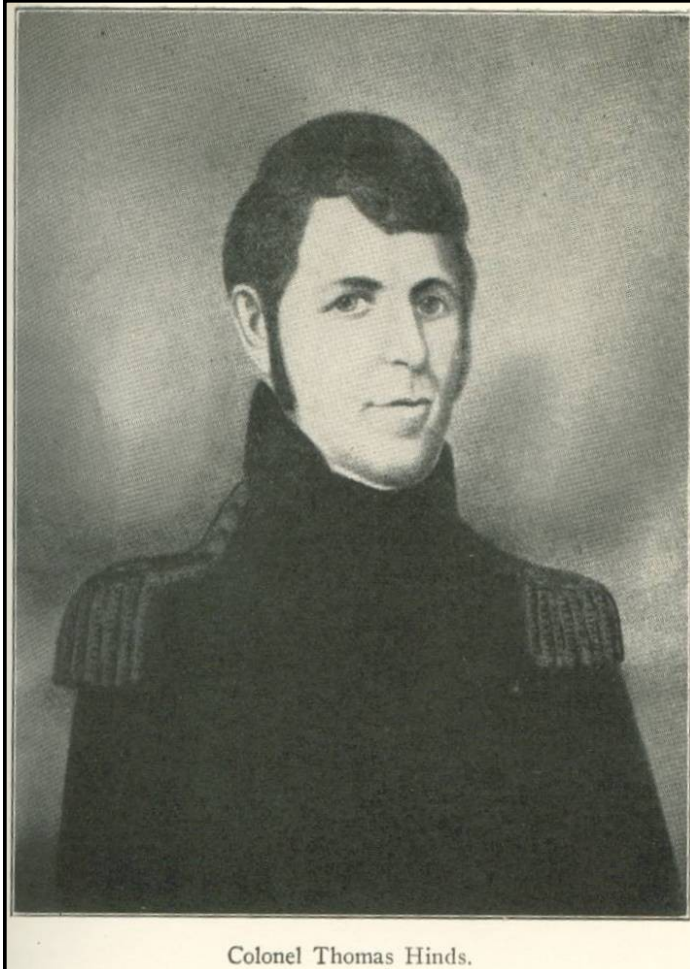
#### March Field Trip **LAST CALL !**

Pres. Taylor reported at the February meeting that 20 seats remain unfilled for the trip on March 18, 2017, to visit War of 1812 Chalmette battlefield site and other historic places in the New Orleans area. There's still room so if you wish to go, see the field trip description and signup form in the January newsletter. If you no longer have your newsletter, you can print it out from the web site at <http://www.achgs.org/newsletters.htm>.

## BITS AND PIECES OF AMITE COUNTY HISTORY

*The following is taken from the Jefferson County, Mississippi, web page (a part of the MS Gen-Web project) and was submitted for publication there by Sue B. Moore ([sbmoore@swbell.net](mailto:sbmoore@swbell.net)). Source references are given in italics following the different sections.*

### **Thomas Hinds**



Colonel Thomas Hinds.

After the Battle of New Orleans, General Andrew Jackson said of Jefferson Troop of cavalry and its commanding officer Thomas Hinds, "the cavalry excited the imagination of one army and the astonishment of the other."

"Major Thomas Hinds, born in Berkley County, Virginia, January 19, 1780; died August 23, 1840; had an illustrious career. In 1806, he organized for the defense of Mississippi a company of dragoons, his first known act of public service; later, at the Battle of New Orleans (War of 1812) he covered himself with immortal fame by his marvelously brave attacks on the British while leading as Major his Mississippi cavalry company, so much so that his company, with personal mention of him, was made subject of a laudatory order issued by Major General Andrew Jackson, there in command, on January 21, 1815. Major Hinds (referred to as General Hinds) was defeated by George Poindexter for Governor of Mississippi in 1819, but the next year (1820) he and General Jackson were appointed commissioners to negotiate a purchase

from the Choctaw Indians of a part of their territory, and in 1821 Hinds County was named for him, and in the same year he with Governor James Patton and Dr. William Lattimore, were appointed by the Mississippi Legislature as commissioners to select a proper site for the seat of government, which they did, choosing the present city of Jackson, naming it for General Jackson. As further recognition of Major Hind's popularity and influence, it may be noted that he was elected to Congress in 1827."

Children of Thomas and Leminda (Green) Hinds  
John – died in infancy

*(Continued on page 4)*

*(Continued from page 3)*

Howell – born Sept. 1, 1809, Jefferson County, MS, died April 9, 1841, married (1) Drucilla Cocks - Issue: Thomas, Wilkin, and Leminda  
(2) Mrs. Mary Ann (Coleman) Lape – Issue: Alice, John, and Howell

Thomas Hind's wife, Leminda, was of the prominent Green family of Jefferson County, and daughter of Thomas Marston Green, Jr. She was born July 5, 1761 and died January 29, 1819.

*From THE EWING GENEALOGY by Presley K. and Mary E. Ewing, Hercules Book Co: Houston, 1919*

\*\*\*\*\*

THOMAS HINDS - a Representative from Mississippi; born in Berkeley County, Va., January 9, 1780; moved to Greenville, Miss.; served in the War of 1812 as major of Cavalry; distinguished himself at the Battle of New Orleans and was brevetted brigadier general for gallantry; unsuccessful candidate for Governor in 1820; elected as a Democrat to the Twentieth Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of William Haile; reelected to the Twenty-first Congress and served from October 21, 1828, to March 3, 1831; died in Greenville, Miss., August 23, 1840.

*From THE BIOGRAPHICAL DIRECTORY OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS*

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Major Thomas Hinds in the Creek War and the War of 1812

In 1814 the most dangerous circuit was that of Peter James and Ira Byrd, with most of the people still at the forts. A much stronger military was now present. Col. Pushmatah, with about 400 friendly Choctaws, was marching upon the Creeks. General Claiborne was getting ready to leave Pine Level, near St. Stephens and move east toward the Alabama River. General Jackson with his Tennessee troops was advancing down the Coosa, and the general outlook became encouraging.

When news of the downfall of Major Beasley and his troops of Jefferson County reached Major-General Thomas Hinds, the lion-hearted man reached a frenzy. He called on his fellow citizens to unite with him to avenge the blood of their slain neighbors, and was soon at the head of a mounted battalion on the way to the seat of the war. He reported to an embarrassed Gen. Claiborne at St. Stephens, who told Hinds he had no room for his command in the fort, that he was required to keep all of his supplies at the fort for his auxiliary Choctaw who were soon to join him under the order of Col. Pushmataha, and the had no authority to issue orders to Hind's troops, as they were not placed under his command. Hinds replied that he need feel no embarrassment on his account, that he had not come to Alabama to fort-up and wait for the Indians to find him; he planned to find them. He would get his horses and supplies where they were to be found, and he wanted no formality of regular orders.

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Continued from page 4)*

Hinds and his troops camped outside the fort that night, while he directed his troops to prepare several day's rations and be ready to start for the Alabama River at dawn on a regular "Indian hunt." His little battalion embraced a fair proportion of the elite and chivalry of Jefferson County, but also included some recreants who protested the Indian hunt. Major Hinds immediately gave permission for any to leave who were unwilling to follow him the next morning. They would not be punished. A number of men were missing at roll call.

With the remaining force, Hinds marched in the direction of Lower Peach Tree on the Alabama River, in regular military order. Hinds learned from his scouts that a number of Creeks were on a plantation on the west bank of the river, shelling corn and conveying it in their canoes across the river. Quietly his force descended like an avalanche on the unsuspecting savages, who were terrified and made faint resistance. Most of the Indians were slain on the ground, and others shot in the river trying to escape. It looked savage for the Jefferson County troops to kill the women and children, but they thought of the butchery of helpless women and children at the Fort Mims massacre, and thought of revenge as, "paying the savages in their own currency."

This little known act of the Jefferson County troops struck such terror in the hostile Creeks in the area, that few were ever seen there by the white inhabitants of the Tombigbee again. Major Hinds was known as a prudent but brave and dashing military leader. His small troop soon became the Mississippi Dragoons, then a regiment, and finally a brigade which he commanded in the vicinity of New Orleans.

In the meantime, General Claiborne advanced to the east bank of the Alabama River opposite Weatherford's Bluff where he erected a large stockade fort called Fort Claiborne. In November, at the head of nearly a thousand Georgians and about 400 friendly Indians, Gen. Floyd crossed the Chatahoche and advanced on the Creeks at the Tallapoosa. In December, Gen. Claiborne marched with a strong force including the friendly Choctaws under Pushmataha, above the mouth of the Cahaba River, where he was effective against the enemy. The Creeks, surrounded and invaded on three sides were conquered, and almost exterminated by the last of April, 1814, and on the 9th of the following August a treaty of peace was concluded and signed by the United States and the remaining chiefs.

*From "A Complete History of Methodism As Connected With the Mississippi Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South Written at the Unanimous Request of the Conference" by Rev. John Griffing Jones, Nashville, Tenn., Southern Methodist Publishing House, Printed for the author, 1887.*

#### Contributions to Newsletter

Society members and other newsletter readers who have stories, family information, or other information that might be of interest relative to Amite County history or genealogy are encouraged to share through the newsletter. Contact this editor and I will send you the instructions for how to submit your contribution.

#### COPYRIGHT NOTICE

In accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107, any copyrighted material published herein is distributed under fair use without profit or payment to those who are interested in receiving the provided information for non-profit research and educational purpose only. Reference:  
<http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml>

